

The Weekly Rigor

No. 192

“A mathematician is a machine for turning coffee into theorems.”

February 24, 2018

52 Problems in Calculating Composite Functions of Polynomials

(Part 3)

SELECTED SOLUTIONS

1. $f(g(x)) = f(x - 3) = x - 3.$
2. $f(g(x)) = f(x + 1) = x + 1.$
3. $f(g(x)) = f(x - 3) = (x - 3) + 2 = x - 3 + 2 = x - 1.$
4. $f(g(x)) = f(x + 1) = (x + 1) + 1 = x + 1 + 1 = x + 2.$
5. $f(g(x)) = f(x + 1) = (x + 1)^2 = (x + 1)(x + 1) = x^2 + x + x + 1 = x^2 + 2x + 1.$
6. $f(g(x)) = f(x^2 + 3) = (x^2 + 3)^2 = x^4 + 6x^2 + 9.$
7. $f(g(x)) = f(3x - 1) = 1 - (3x - 1)^2 = 1 - [(3x)^2 - 6x + 1] = 1 - 9x^2 + 6x - 1 = -9x^2 + 6x.$
8. $f(g(x)) = f(x + 1) = 3 + (x + 1) - (x + 1)^2 = 3 + x + 1 - [x^2 + 2x + 1] = 4 + x - [x^2 + 2x + 1] = 4 + x - x^2 - 2x - 1 = 3 - x - x^2 = -x^2 - x + 3.$
10. $f(g(x)) = f(1 - x^2) = 3(1 - x^2) - 1 = 3 - 3x^2 - 1 = 2 - 3x^2 = -3x^2 + 2.$
11. $g(f(x)) = g(x + 2) = (x + 2) - 3 = x + 2 - 3 = x - 1.$
12. $g(f(x)) = g(x^2) = x^2 + 1.$
13. $g(f(x)) = g(x^2) = (x^2)^2 + 3 = x^4 + 3.$
15. $g(f(x)) = g(3 + x - x^2) = (3 + x - x^2) + 1 = 3 + x - x^2 + 1 = 4 + x - x^2 = -x^2 + x + 4.$
17. $g(f(x)) = g(3x - 1) = 1 - (3x - 1)^2 = 1 - [9x^2 - 6x + 1] = 1 - 9x^2 + 6x - 1 = -9x^2 + 6x.$

$$18. f(f(x)) = f(x) = x.$$

$$19. f(f(x)) = f(x^2) = (x^2)^2 = x^4.$$

$$\begin{aligned} 21. f(f(x)) &= f(3 + x - x^2) = 3 + (3 + x - x^2) - (3 + x - x^2)^2 = \\ &= 3 + 3 + x - x^2 - (3 + x - x^2)^2 = 6 + x - x^2 - [(3 + x - x^2)(3 + x - x^2)] = \\ &= 6 + x - x^2 - [9 + 3x - 3x^2 + 3x + x^2 - x^3 - 3x^2 - x^3 + x^4] = \\ &= 6 + x - x^2 - [9 + 6x - 5x^2 - 2x^3 + x^4] = 6 + x - x^2 - 9 - 6x + 5x^2 + 2x^3 - x^4 = \\ &= -3 - 5x + 4x^2 + 2x^3 - x^4 = -x^4 + 2x^3 + 4x^2 - 5x - 3. \end{aligned}$$

$$24. g(g(x)) = g(x + 1) = (x + 1) + 1 = x + 1 + 1 = x + 2.$$

$$\begin{aligned} 29. g(g(x)) &= g(1 - x^2) = 1 - (1 - x^2)^2 = 1 - [1 - 2x^2 + x^4] = 1 - 1 + 2x^2 - x^4 \\ &= 0 + 2x^2 - x^4 = -x^4 + 2x^2. \end{aligned}$$

$$30. g(0) = (0) - 3 = 0 - 3 = -3. \text{ Hence, } f(g(0)) = f(-3) = -3.$$

$$32. g(1) = (1)^2 + 3 = 1 + 3 = 4. \text{ Hence, } f(g(1)) = f(4) = (4)^2 = 16.$$

$$\begin{aligned} 34. f(3) &= 3 + (3) - (3)^2 = 3 + 3 - 9 = 6 - 9 = -3. \text{ Hence, } g(f(3)) = g(-3) = \\ &= (-3) + 1 = -2. \end{aligned}$$

$$36. g(1) = 1 - (1)^2 = 1 - 1 = 0. \text{ Hence, } g(g(1)) = g(0) = 1 - (0)^2 = 1 - 0 = 1.$$

$$37. f(g(t)) = f(t^2 - 15) = -(t^2 - 15) + 7 = -t^2 + 15 + 7 = -t^2 + 22.$$

$$38. r(2) = 2^3 = 8. \text{ Hence, } s(r(2)) = s(8) = 8 - 7 = 1.$$

$$39. V(A(s)) = V(6s^2) = (6s^2)^3 = 6^3s^6 = 216s^6.$$

$$40. P(2) = 3 + 2 - 2^2 = 5 - 4 = 1. \text{ Hence, } D(P(2)) = D(1) = 1 + 1 = 2.$$

$$41. f(f(\theta)) = f(1 + \theta^2) = 1 + (1 + \theta^2)^2 = 1 + 1 + 2\theta^2 + \theta^4 = \theta^4 + 2\theta^2 + 2.$$

$$46. f(g(x)) = f\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right) = 2\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right) + 1 = x + 1.$$

$$48. f(g(h(x))) = f(g(x^3)) = f((x^3)^2) = f(x^6) = x^6 + 1.$$

$$51. f(g(h(x))) = f(g(-x)) = f(3(-x) + 5) = f(-3x + 5) = (-3x + 5) - 1 = -3x + 4.$$

“Only he who never plays, never loses.”